Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: EAID, ID SUBJECT: IGGI-15: CONVERSATIONS WITH INDONESIANS AND JAPANESE

1. US DELEGATION MET WITH INDONESIAN DELEGATION LATE MONDAY AFTERNOON TO CONVEY US PLEDGING POSITION FOR 1974/75 AND SEEK GOI COMMENTS PRIOR MEETING WITH JAPANESE. HEAD USDEL (MACDONALD) DESCRIBED BACKGROUND AND FORM OF US PLEDGE, STRESSING THAT BY VIRTUE OF FACT THIS REVISION OF FORMULA MAXIMIZES OUR FLEXIBILITY FULFILL PLEDGE, IT IN TURN WOULD LIKELY MAXIMIZE LEVEL OF ACTUAL COMMITMENTS TO FOLLOW PLEDGE. WIDJOJO RESPONDED THAT GOI WAS PLEASED WITH BOTH AMOUNT AND FORMULA IN CURRENT SITUATION OF TIGHT US ASSISTANCE AVAILABILITIES. HE NOTED THAT IF JAPAN SWITCHED TO NEW US ONE THIRD FORMULA, THIS WOULD RESULT IN INCREASED JAPANESE ASSISTANCE, AS GOI HAS BEEN INFORMED JAPANESE LEVEL AID 1974/75 LIKELY TO BE ZERO.

2. MACDONALD TOLD WIDJOJO US WOULD RAISE CERTAIN POINTS IN FORMAL SESSIONS, INCLUDING MEASURES VS INFLATION; GOI BUDGET AND MOBILIZATION DOMESTIC RESOURCES; AGRICULTURAL POLICIES, ESPECIALLY ON PRICES; EMPLOYMENT; AND ROLE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE DURING 2ND PLAN. WIDJOJO HAD NO SPECIAL REACTION THIS INFORMATION. CONFIDENTIAL

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3. MACDONALD/HEAVNER THEN MET WITH JAPANESE, WHO HAD

GENERALLY POSITIVE REACTION TO US PLEDGE AND CONFIRMED UNLIKELIHOOD ANY GOJ FOOD AID 1974/75. HOWEVER, THEY PRESSED FOR OUR VIEWS ON REASONABLENESS OF INDONESIAN AID REQUEST LEVEL (859 MILLION). OUR IMPRESSION WAS THAT GOJ WOULD TAKE WAIT-AND-SEE ATTITUDE, ENDORSING REQUEST ONLY IF CLEAR CONSENSUS EMERGED. WE CONVEYED OUR VIEW OF APPROPRIATENESS OF GOI REQUEST IN THIS PERIOD OF FLUX, STRESSING THAT PAST DONOR INVESTMENTS IN GENERATING DEVELOPMENT MOMENTUM CALLED FOR CONTINUED SUPPORT THIS YEAR DURING WHICH BOP CHANGES COULD BE CAREFULLY WATCHED. AS IN PAST JAPAN WILL PLEDGE IN MAY. AND DELEGATION SEEMED UNINSTRUCTED AS TO WHAT FORMULA OR LEVEL THEY MIGHT EMPLOY IN LIGHT OF OUR REVISED FORMULA. THEY ALSO RAISED QUESTION OF LNG, APPARENTLY FEELING WE OR SOME OTHER DELEGATIONS MIGHT FEEL THEY SHOULD REPORT ON THEIR PLANS FOR CONCESSIONAL LOANS LINKED TO LNG PURCHASES, AS THEY DID IN THE OIL LOAN DEAL OF LAST YEAR. US DELEGATES SAID WE HAD NO INTENTION RAISE LNG IN IGGI. GOULD

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